## **SAN ANTONIO AIRPORT SYSTEM**

## **NEWS RELEASE**



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## Homeland Security Efforts in San Antonio Get Boost from Local Company U.S. Congressman Lamar Smith Tours Breakthrough Security Gate Operator at SAT Airport

The busiest time of air travel is now, making passenger safety critical. Just in time, a groundbreaking high-speed gate operator is operational at the *San Antonio International Airport* — the first facility in the world to implement the VMag gate operator, revolutionizing homeland security. VMag Technology, based in San Antonio, designed the rapid speed gate operator, which opens and closes three times faster than traditional operators, making it much more difficult for unauthorized personnel to enter the airport operations area.

- U.S. Congressman Lamar Smith, the second-most senior Republican on the Homeland Security Committee in Washington D.C. recently visited San Antonio specifically to view the VMag gate operator which protects the airport perimeter.
- "Homeland Security is only as strong as the weakest link and what we have found out so many times is that the weakest link is oftentimes around the perimeter of various facilities," said Representative Smith.
- "The most important issue in America today is in fact homeland security and we need to do everything we can to protect American lives and stop those who would do us harm. The old fashioned gates that open and close only at 1/3 the speed of the (VMag) gates behind me they really do present a clear and present danger."
- "We're the first airport in the world to install the VMAG gate operator," stated Frank Miller, Aviation Director of San Antonio International Airport, which has installed three gates and is planning on a fourth. "The safety and security of our passengers, guests and tenants are always the number one priority."

The VMag gates at the San Antonio airport have cycled through more than 200,000 times with a flawless performance record. The VMag gate operator opens and closes at an astounding six feet per second, protecting valuable assets at airports, chemical plants, embassies and military installations. "Seconds count at these vulnerable locations and slow-moving gates can amount to gaping holes in homeland security," said Pat O 'Connor of VMag.

"VMag addresses the important of security at all federal facilities including nuclear power plants, military installations, airports and embassies.

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